

THE CLAYTON CITIZEN

VOLUME 12

CLAYTON, NEW MEXICO, THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1916.

NO. 4.

Facts About Clayton and Union County

Clayton is situated in the north-eastern corner of New Mexico, in the east central part of Union county, just 340 miles from Denver, Colorado, and 467 miles from Ft. Worth, Texas, on the Colorado & Southern Railroad, and lies in the most fertile plains of the west. These plains are traversed by numerous water courses, and an abundance of pure water can be had in most any part of the county at from 20 to 150 feet. It is the great trade center of Union County, and has a population of about eighteen hundred, and more people are coming all the time.

We have a telephone system, and lines are being constructed in different directions from Clayton, and a municipally owned water and light plant. Three Banks, Four Newspapers, Three Lumber Yards, Two Large Hardware and Implement Stores, Two Furniture Stores, and a number of Grocery, Dry Goods and other stores, good hotels, etc. Also a new Mill and Elevator to handle the crops of Wheat, Maize, Corn, etc., which are increasing in volume every year.

We also have a fine brick Public and High School building, and propose to build another one in the very near future, and now have a splendid school system and efficient instructors for all the departments; and a fine brick court house, beautiful in architecture, elegant in finish and a monument or pride to those who dwell in Union County. Also five Church Buildings, of the Methodist, Baptist, Christian and Catholic denominations.

Besides the above named enterprises, the town is growing rapidly, with new enterprises opening up every day and new and substantial buildings being added to our already prosperous city. Mr. M. Herzstein has just completed an opera house which would do credit to a town much larger than Clayton. Its completion marks an achievement, without question the best of its kind between Trinidad and Amarillo, and for its size second to none in the west. It stands as a true characteristic of the business men of the town in that it is the best, not building to meet present needs only, but for the future growth of the city. Another building and enterprise that is worthy of special mention at this juncture, and that is the Eklund Hotel. This hotel, to those who are acquainted at all in this part of the state, is well known, for the traveling public, both far and wide, sojourning in these parts, have made special efforts to make this their stopping place, that they might enjoy the good meals, the comfortable clean, well equipped rooms, and the hospitality of its host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Eklund. This is unquestionably one of the most, if not the most popular hotel in this section of the southwest.

Union County

Union county is one of the leading stock countries of the west. Here the climate is ideal. The grass with its excessive nutriment makes grazing attractive to the cattle and sheep men as well, and thousands of sheep and cattle roam the prairies and yield great returns to their owners each season. Some of the most healthy cattle and sheep men in the west live in Union county, in and around the city of Clayton. The coming of the Homesteader will not decrease but will increase this profitable industry. Better care will be given it, more of it will be fattened on the grain and corn produced here and will be shipped grain fat direct to eastern markets, instead of being fed in transit as has been the custom in days gone by.

Union County is less in debt than any county in the state, and therefore taxes are very reasonable.

Soil and Rainfall

The soil is as fertile as you will find, varying from a dark sticky loam to a sandy loam, and produces an excellent quality of grass that is very nutritious, as well as fine crops of Alfalfa, Corn, Wheat, Oats, Maize, Broom Corn, Kaffir Corn, Cane, Millet, and other farm crops.

There is little rainfall during the fall and winter though there is sufficient snow in the winter to keep the earth moist for winter wheat, and there is being a larger acreage planted every year. Most of the precipitation occurs in the spring and summer months, the growing season of the year. The winters are mild, the thermometer seldom registers below zero, while the summers are pleasant. There is usually a breeze blowing through the day, and the nights are cool and refreshing. Some years ago it was the prevalent idea that New Mexico would never become an agricultural state without irrigation, but that idea has passed away, especially in the eastern

climates. Apples, Peaches, Plums, Pears, Cherries, etc., as well as most small fruits produce well, and a large number of orchards are being planted every year, and they are doing fine where they are given care.

Homesteads

The first settlers came to this country about May, 1907, and in that year scarcely any farming was attempted, but since that time thousands upon thousands of acres have been taken up and put in cultivation each year, by actual settlers, who know a good thing when they see it. The Good Free Homestead Land is practically all taken up now, but there are still a few scattering pieces over the country, and there is plenty of good farming and grazing land, patented, that can be bought for from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per acre, but this low price will not last long, for land in other states that is not as good as our land here is selling for from \$25.00 to \$100.00 per acre, and as this fact becomes known over other sections of the country, it

cheer in abundance. Here then we have the climatic requisites preventive and curative to pulmonary diseases; altitude, equality of temperature, dryness, abundance of sunshine and pureness of air, which is stimulating to the lungs and tubercular germs cannot thrive.

Fuel

Our fuel is obtained from the mountains west of us in which are found the largest coal deposits in the United States if not in the world. A few miles from Clayton coal is now being mined in considerable quantities, and it is a good grade of domestic coal. A large number of people still get cedar and pinion from the brakes for fuel, where it can be had at a nominal cost.

Chas. Polson Dead

Word was received here Wednesday of the death of Chas. Polson, of near Guy. He has been well and favorably known in that vicinity for some years and his death will be mourned by many friends and relatives. He leaves a wife and two small children. Mr. Burt Carpenter came to Clayton the same day with his brother Amiel, to make arrangements for the funeral which was held in Clayton on Thursday. Tuberculosis was the cause of his death.

Clayton a Real Shipping Point

We have the information that one, just one, of our implement dealers has five carloads of implements on the way to Clayton for the spring trade. Mr. Stingley, of the C. B. & Q. freight department, said in this connection, that he was in all of the principal cities of Colorado and New Mexico about once each month, and that he could pick up more business in Clayton in one day than he could in any of the others in a week. Clayton is some town and is destined to be SOME CITY.

Bread-Contest Prizes

We are authorized to announce that the Clayton Milling Company will give for prizes in the bread contest conducted by the Home Economics Club, for the first prize, light bread, 1-2 sack flour, second, 1-4 sack flour. The same proportionately in corn meal and graham, that is to say, there will be first and second prizes of the product from which the bread is baked. Dr. Charlton is much interested in the contest and is anxious that all of the ladies of the town give their product a fair trial.

Dr. Haydon Opens Up Optical Shop in Mission Building

Dr. Haydon has recently moved into the Mission building and opened up an office where he will be prepared to conduct his practice as an optician. He is equipping one of the most up-to-date offices of the kind that we have seen and it adds another to one of the many enterprises of the town of Clayton. The Dr. has been in the city for about seven years and is well acquainted here and has been with the City Drug store for about three years and his many friends here and the Citizen wish him success in this another new enterprise for Clayton.

Pioneer Garage has Big Improvement

Mr. Wikoff of the Pioneer Garage, has just recently installed one of the most useful mechanical appliances to be found in any up-to-date machine shop, in the way of an acetylene welder. With this machine, the mechanic is enabled to apply heat to any shape or form of iron and make a repair that in an ordinary way would be entirely out of the question. The machine is quite expensive and were it not for the fact that Mr. Wikoff has all faith in the growth and development of our city, it would be an impractical thing to own in a town this size. His increasing business demands its use and we find a spirit of progress and thrift among the business men of Clayton not to be excelled anywhere.

Horse and Saddles Recovered

Value of Saddles \$229.00

The report of the horse and saddle thieves was incomplete in last week's issue as it became news just as we were going to press. More complete information revealed the fact that the men had rode into Stratford, Texas, and had bought four saddles, saying as they did so that they would be back as soon as they went to the bank and drew some money. They drew the money and "blew" out of town without paying for them. They started south out of Stratford and by circuitous route came to the north-west of town and into Oklahoma. Here they pulled another one. They sold a horse to one Mr. Reynolds, who paid them, they to leave the horse in the pasture where he had been during the previous night. They took the money but forgot to leave the horse. Deputy Sheriff Hogsett had been on and never lost their trail until he finally succeeded in overtaking them just as they came into Clayton on Thursday night. He succeeded in keeping the trail by means of a crooked hind hoof of one of their horses which he observed directly after taking the trail.

The saddles were turned over to and returned by Mr. Hogsett, the prisoners remaining in the custody of the county officials.

Mr. Simon Herzstein to New York

Mr. Simon Herzstein left Sunday for the eastern markets to lay in a supply of his spring and summer goods. He will visit some of the principal cities of the east, including New York, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia and Atlantic City, combining business with pleasure in the last cities, where he will visit home folks before returning. He will be absent about a month.

Hayden, N. M., Jan. 21, 1916.
The Citizen,
Clayton, N. Mex.

I notice in your last issue that the question of Union county having a farm demonstrator is before our County Commissioners for consideration and that you are willing to publish whatever comments we make.

I feel this is an issue most of the residents are interested in. In the first place in the more thickly settled parts of our country this plan has very generally been adopted and I have never known of a case where it has not proved a benefit greatly exceeding the cost per capita.

This being true how much more benefit it would surely be where the most of our resources are as yet undeveloped.

There seems to be two items that are very important in considering this question.

First the cost, yet when we remember how large our county is and how little our taxes would have to be raised and knowing that farmers where this system has been adopted have been able to save hundreds of dollars each season in marketing their crops as well as increasing their yields, it seems to me this should not prevent us from having a farm demonstrator.

Then the question of getting a good man for the place comes up. I mean by that one who is more interested than merely drawing his salary. And it seems in all of our great county there should be one man who would be willing to visit our farmers, business men and clubs and help them to learn the right relations toward each other, and I am sure be of inestimable value to all of them.

Yours for a farm demonstrator,

F. F. Ellis,

Hayden, N. M.

Notice of School Bond Election

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of the school district organized under the name of BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE VILLAGE OF CLAYTON, in the State of New Mexico, that a special Election will be held on February 1st, 1916, at the Court House, in Clayton, New Mexico, between the hours of 9 a. m., and 6 p. m., for the purpose of voting upon the question of issuing \$35,000 Bonds of said Board of Education of the Village of Clayton, in order to borrow money for the purpose of erecting and furnishing a school building within said district and purchasing the necessary site therefor.

H. H. Edmondson, Geo. H. Wade and C. R. Kiser have been appointed Judges, and A. Jas. McDonald and Milo Ratcliff Clerks of said election.

M. R. Jones,
Village Clerk.
Laverne B. Brown,
Clerk of Board of Education.

For the issuance of \$35,000 Bonds of the Board of Education of the Village of Clayton. ☒

Against the issuance of \$35,000 Bonds of the Board of Education of the Village of Clayton. ☐
so that the voter may indicate his choice by a cross.

If you want to Boost for Clayton. Put a cross in the upper square as indicated above.

and northeastern part of the state. The average rainfall is about 25 inches, and it falls largely during the growing season, when it is most needed, and is fully equal to the rainfall of the Central states during the growing season of the year.

Agricultural Possibilities

While the agricultural resources of this country are but slightly developed, enough has been done in the last seven years to prove that all the crops of the east may be successfully grown. The 1914 and 1915 crops were very good. Corn yielded from 20 to 50 bushels to the acre, Wheat from 20 to 55 bushels, Oats 25 to 70 bushels, Maize 25 to 60 bushels, and other crops in proportion.

Garden vegetables, turnips, melons and canteloupes grow to perfection.

Fruits

Union county now grows a considerable quantity of all varieties of fruit that succeed in the temperate

will bring a heavy immigration of settlers into this community. In fact it is bringing them now by the hundreds of families. If you want to get a good piece of this land at a bargain, COME AT ONCE, for the raise in prices has already started. As an investment proposition alone, this land at the present prices will make big returns on the money invested, and that in a very short time, too.

Health

Purity of air and good water must not be lost sight of in seeking a new home. We have both in abundance here, and are sufficiently far south to escape the severity of the north, so therefore the winters are mild, and the thermometer seldom goes below zero. They are also dry; no wading knee deep in mud and slush, and continuously having wet feet, the source of most coughs and colds. No dreary, drizzling rain day after day, but practically every day a day in which the sun shines in all its splendor, giving forth heat, light and